

The Times' Daily Short Story.
The Longworthy
Confessions

(Original.)
The Longworthy case was no mystery; at least that is what everybody said. Longworthy had come into the house that day, and Desmond was to go out of it in the morning. Longworthy's body was found in the library shot through the heart, while Desmond's revolver, one chamber empty, lay on the floor. When they arrested Desmond, though he had not been informed of the murder, he did not seem surprised; the pallor on his face deepened; there was a wild terror in his eye; he made no denial of his guilt.
Desmond had every motive for the crime. Longworthy had tied up to deprive him of an estate he had supposed belonged to himself. Desmond had loved Katherine Page, who must marry the heir to the estate or forfeit her own property, worth a million.
The prisoner bore himself as one living in the horror of a crime. What passed between him and his legal defender was a secret, but after a conference the lawyer put in the plea of insanity and on this depended solely for acquittal.
The trial was short, the defense being confined to a theory advanced by the prisoner's counsel that Desmond had been made temporarily insane by the loss of fortune and the woman he loved. The plea was considered weak, first, because it was not proved that Katherine Page had decided to throw him off to save her fortune; second, because the criminal insane are not to be tolerated by society. The jury were out two hours, all this while discussing the leaving of the pistol where it was sure to incriminate the murderer, then returned to the court with a verdict of guilty.
Desmond was in prison a long while awaiting the execution of the death sentence. His counsel worked for him with all the zeal of one confident of his client's innocence. This was surprising, for, putting in a plea of insanity, which was by no means substantiated, the lawyer virtually confessed that the deed had been committed by Desmond.
One day the lawyer hurried into Desmond's cell and told him to prepare his mind for a relief which was so marked, so unexpected that it would be dangerous. Desmond looked up at him with a piteous expression of inquiry.
"Some time ago," said the lawyer, "I received a note from one who agreed to confess to the Longworthy murder if punishment could be fixed beforehand at a few years. Since then I have been working night and day to secure the terms. This morning secret papers were signed agreeing to a sentence of ten years, and the real murderer has confessed."
"Confessed!" said the prisoner won-

AN EXPANSIVE ARCHIVE

The Government's Plan For a Hall of Records.

FUTURE NEED PROVIDED FOR.

Large Main Building With Extensions Proposed—United States Will Be the Third Nation to Have a Structure Devoted to Preservation of National Documents.

The Hall of Records at Washington, which will be used as a repository for departmental records, will be built on a plan entirely different from that followed in the construction of other government buildings in the national capital, arrangements being made so as to permit extensions from time to time as more space is required, says the New York Times.

There is not a public building in Washington large enough to contain the bureau of the department for which it was provided, and some of the departments outgrow their buildings years ago. This condition has made necessary the renting of large office buildings and other structures. The aggregate paid by the government in rents would appall the economical taxpayer. An instance is found in the case of a costly new office building taken for government purposes. It is said that the lease provides a rental which in five years will aggregate an amount equal to the entire cost of the building. Other rentals paid by the government are said to be upon a similar basis.

"There is no public improvement more needed for the welfare of the nation than a Hall of Records," said Mr. Taylor, the supervising architect of the treasury, the other day. "The growth of government business is so rapid and the accumulation of the files so great that in consequence all the files are cramped for room in which to store papers which by law must be preserved. The destruction by fire of any of the department buildings would cause irreparable injury, confusion and delay in the transaction of the public business. Especially is this true with reference to the treasury, which is the great clearing house of the government, where all its debts are paid and evidence of such payments preserved. Departmental records, overlying the originally provided repositories, in several cases have been stored in other buildings which the government rents."

"The plans for the Hall of Records now under consideration provide for a large main building, with extensions. The main building is to be devoted to the business of the superintendent of the records, and there will be an extension for each of the departments. The extensions are to be so constructed that they can be enlarged as increased space is demanded. The site was selected with a view of obtaining additional ground when it shall be required."

"The government has arranged for the purchase of the entire space bounded by Eighteenth, Nineteenth, F and G streets, so there will be ample ground for the kind of building proposed. Congress has appropriated \$5,000 to be expended in the drawing of the plans, and at the next session an appropriation for the building probably will be authorized."

"The plan of the government in constructing buildings of one and two stories will not be followed, as the Hall of Records will be a building of several stories. It has been proposed that the department be connected with the Hall of Records by a pneumatic tube system similar to that in use between the capitol and the Congressional library, which has proved successful."

"There are only two buildings devoted to the preservation of governmental records in the world. One is in London and the other in Paris. An agent of the supervising architect's bureau will be directed to go to Europe and inspect those buildings and report on the methods employed there, with a view to adopting the most effective methods for our Hall of Records."

The site of the Hall of Records is a block to the west of the war, state and navy buildings and not far from the White House and treasury. John Hay, secretary of state, and Senator William M. Stewart of Nevada are the largest holders of property in the square taken by the government. The property holders at first demanded exorbitant prices for their holdings, but under the threat of condemnation proceedings they agreed to sell for two and one-eighth times the assessed valuation of the property.

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PARIS UNDERGROUND LINE.

Description of Region Where the Great Disaster Occurred.

Wonderfully comprehensive is the scheme of the Paris Metropolitan Underground railway, where the recent tunnel disaster occurred, says the New York Herald. When it is completely executed, about three years next April, Paris will possess nearly fifty miles of railway lines almost exclusively underground. The outside circle of the network of the Metropolitan runs within the circle of the city's walls and fortifications. This circle is cut and intersected by a great number of transverse lines terminating at some distance without its circumference on the extreme boundaries of the city, and crossing the Seine, either by means of tunnels or bridges, at no fewer than six different points. A straight section runs from the Bastille to the Porte Maillot, at the Bois de Boulogne. Eventually there will be 133 stations, situated at seldom more than 500 or 600 yards distance from one another, and every one of the 133 stations will be in direct communication with every other station on the system. At certain junctions, the Trocadero, the Arc de Triomphe and the Opera, where three lines meet, the station is constructed in two or three tiers.

Excavations were begun in November, 1898, and in less than two years—namely, by October, 1900—the first section, traversing Paris from east to west, was in full working order. The Parisians took to the new means of transit at once, the road became popular, and within seven months of its opening the daily average of passengers was 150,000, with daily receipts of \$4,400.

The entrances to the stations are light and graceful and take up very little room, the stations being covered with thick glass and tulip shaped roofs, while the white stone stairways are flanked by white tiled walls, well lighted with incandescent lamps.

The trains follow each other at intervals of five minutes, the cars being comfortable and admirably lighted, while overcrowding of the carriages is, according to law, prohibited. The maximum load of a first class carriage is thirty-one passengers seated and twenty-one standing, and of a second class twenty-six passengers seated and twenty-one standing.

The second section of the Metropolitan, on which the accident occurred, extends from the Place d'Anvers to the Rue de Bagnole, a stretch of about six kilometers and some twelve stations, of which two are those of the Rue des Charonnies and at Moniment, between which the disaster happened.

The tunnel of the Paris Metropolitan is sixteen feet in diameter. Its depth varies, but it has no continuous deep level of sixty feet, like the Londoner's twopenny tube, though its average depth is below that of New York's rapid transit subway.

STATE LINES.

Kansas farmers last year received for their milk and cream \$9,545,267.15. In 1890 Nebraska produced 10,000,000 bushels of wheat. This year the crop is estimated as at least 80,000,000 bushels.

Four-fifths of the coal mined in West Virginia is dug by machines. Several new companies are opening mines in the remote sections of that state.

As a marble producing state Georgia may rival Vermont. The marble belt is about sixty miles in length, extending from a southwesterly direction from the North Carolina line through Pickens county. The supply is practically inexhaustible.

Novel Locomotive Exhibit.

One of the interesting exhibits at the St. Louis exposition will be a locomotive of the old red wheel type which used to run between Hannibal and St. Joseph, Mo., before the war, connecting at the latter town with Buffalo Bill's famous pony express, says the Four Track News. Side by side with this will be one of the great Burlington locomotives. This, with numerous similar contrasting exhibits, will tell in a story without words the almost incredible progress of railroading in the last half century.

PROGRESS IN CHINA.

Western Amusements in the Summer Palace at Peking.

Commenting on the recent dancing in the palace at Peking, the China Times says: "It was a matter of great surprise to many to learn that the grand old dowager had taken a real interest in western music and that princesses were dancing in a way calculated to upset the traditions of the Summer palace. It appears that reform in China can be best introduced through western pleasures and amusements. Tientsin has selected the humble medium of the merry-go-round with horse power music, while Peking in its pride of place called upon the services of Sir Robert Hart's famous band. Amusements are far more insidious than study, and it is the first aim of every teacher to interest first and instruct afterward."

"China is in the kindergarten stage of western learning. She must be amused to be taught. Don't hurry her; don't cram her. Let her learn the alphabet of reform in a pleasant manner. Instead of sending to China strong bands of foreign military, send strong military bands, with Dan Godfrey to lead them. The high appreciation of Sir Robert's band by the imperial party opens up a very alarming prospect to officials. For the empress to express such delight in western music is equivalent to ordering the officials in the capital to encourage such music. There can be no other prospect than every Peking official blowing his own trumpet with variations. A wave of music will pass over Peking, and every household will have an additional lute. There is one great danger to be guarded against. They must not learn the extortionate powers of the waits."

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Real Estate,	7,104.17	Dividends unpaid	15.00
Cash on hand and in banks,	144,176.61	Deposits,	\$1,009,832.02
	\$1,089,296.76		\$1,089,296.76

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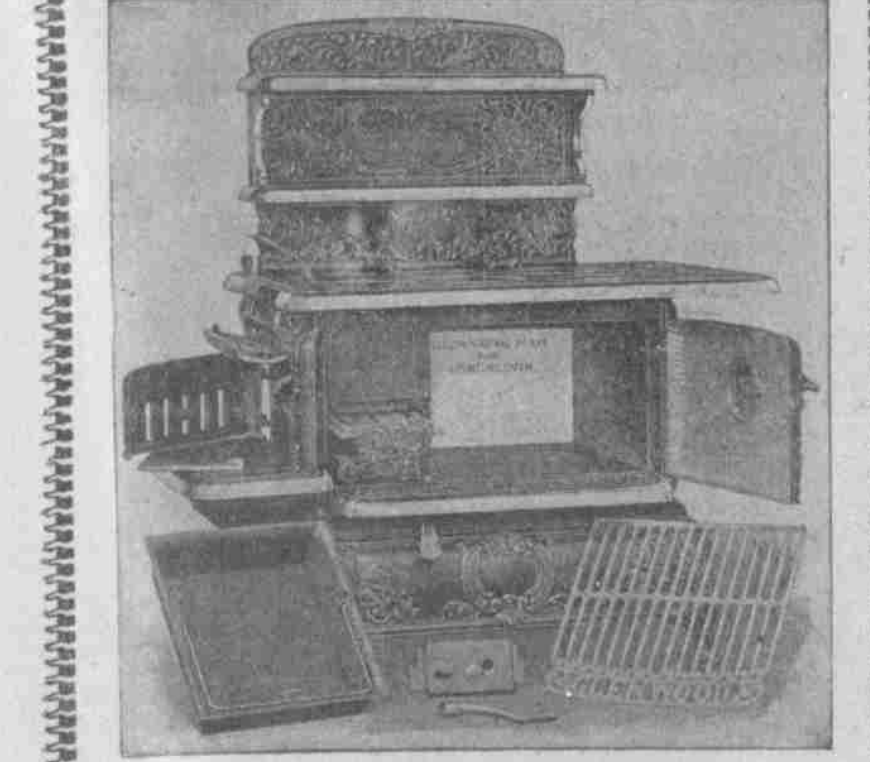
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